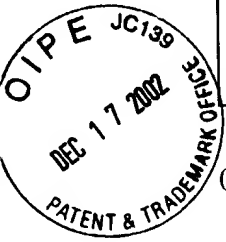


Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

AF/1647
RECEIVED

DEC 20 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION
EXPEDITED HANDLING REQUESTED - GAU 1647

01997.004700

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
SEISHI KATO, ET AL.)
Application No.: 09/284,320)
Filed: June 21, 1999)
For: HUMAN PROTEINS HAVING)
TRANSMEMBRANE DOMAINS)
AND DNAs ENCODING THESE)
PROTEINS)
Examiner: Jegatheesan Seharaseyon
Group Art Unit: 1647
December 11, 2002

#35
B.G.
1/14/03
(145)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants received an Office Action dated November 29, 2002 (Paper No. 34) in the above-identified application. This paper seeks to have that Office Action vacated.

REMARKS

Applicants filed on October 29, 2002 an RCE. The RCE transmittal included a Request to suspend action under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for three months (item 2a),